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Purdue University

Purdue University is one of the 68 land-grant colleges and universities which owe their origin to the Land-Grant Act of 1862, otherwise known as the Morrill Act. Three years after its passage, the General Assembly of Indiana voted to avail itself of the provisions of this act and began preliminary plans for a school devoted primarily to the agricultural and mechanical arts.

In 1869 the Assembly voted to accept a gift of land and money from John Purdue and other generous Lafayette citizens and, in appreciation, declared the name of the new institution to be Purdue University. The University is supported mainly by state appropriations, supplemented by federal grants.

Actual instruction began in 1874 with 39 students and a faculty of six. Today Purdue University enrolls more than 36,000 students at the Lafayette campus and regional campuses at Fort Wayne, Hammond, and Westville.

Undergraduate and graduate instruction is offered in agriculture (including agricultural engineering); aeronautics, astronautics, and engineering sciences; chemical engineering; civil engineering; electrical engineering; industrial engineering; mechanical engineering; materials science and metallurgical engineering; nuclear engineering; home economics; humanities, social science, and education; industrial management; pharmacy and pharmacal sciences; science; technology; and veterinary science and medicine.

Extensive experiment stations in both engineering and agriculture are maintained by the University. The Cooperative Extension Service through the county agents, services the entire state. A variety of courses is offered through the conferences and continuation services programs sponsored by the University.